KALENDAR OF EVENTS

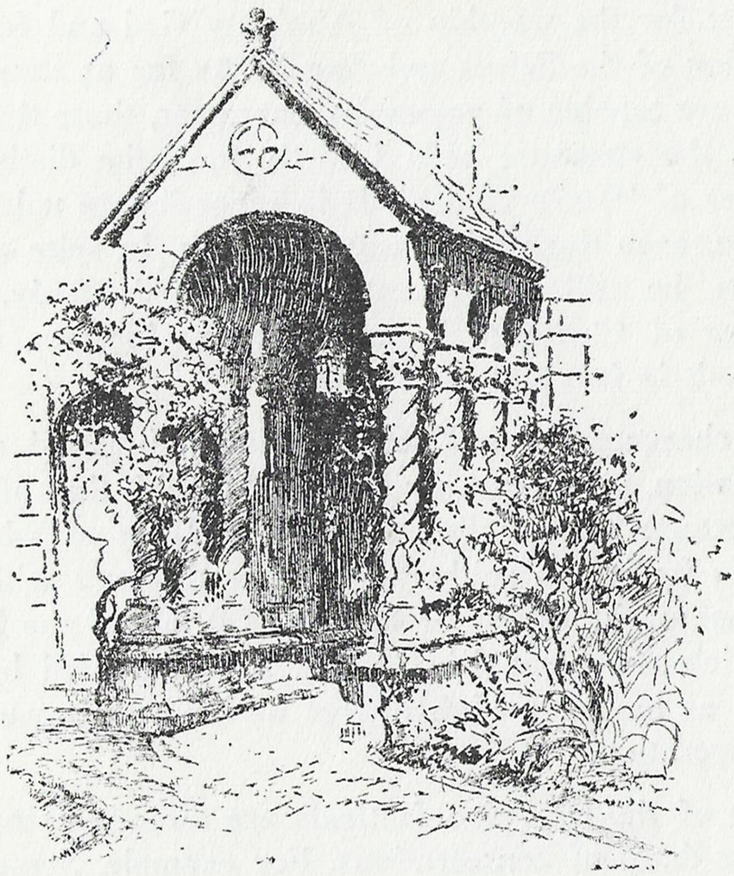
during the

CENTENNIAL YEAR

of

S. Clement's Church

PHILADELPHIA



1864 — — — — 1964

The Parish was organized and its Charter granted on September 13, 1855.

The corner-stone was laid on May 12, 1856.

The Church was consecrated on Tuesday, April 12, 1864.

CONCERNING THE CONSECRATION OF A CHURCH

Some of you may be wondering,—and with good reason,—"Why celebrate so elaborately on the anniversary of the consecration of a Church building?" Because, from the viewpoint of the Church itself this is the most important event in the history of a Church building. A near-parallel is this: the baptism of a child in comparison with his physical birth. Both of these events are extremely important to the child and to his family. The baptism makes the child a member of Christ's Body; because of his baptism the child is a candidate for heaven. The Church building, unconsecrated, is rather like the unbaptized child. It serves a good purpose, but not in the ideal way. The consecration, by the Bishop, sets that building apart from all secular purposes. The building is set apart for the worship of Almighty God and for the veneration of the Saints and Angels. As far as stone and mortar are capable of possessing character, those that are used in the structure of a Church, have the distinctive character of "God's House". It is impossible to unbaptize a person, even though he deny the Faith. In spite of his rebellion, he still is a member of Christ's Body. The character of Christian, imposed through baptism, is indelible,—it is forever.

The character of a Church building, imposed at its consecration, is not entirely comparable with that of baptism because the building is passive. It takes what is given to it; it can neither agree nor disagree with the intentions of its owner or builder. Yet, all of the building's lifelessness notwithstanding, it is regarded by the Church as having a high degree of holiness because of its consecration.

Some of the Christian festivals are directly associated with the dates of consecrations. For example, September 29th in no way is associated with any activity of S. Michael and his host of Angels. No record has been left, to our knowledge, of the dates when S. Michael was in touch with S. John; hence the Apocalypse makes no hint of year, month or days. But the great Basilica of S. Michael on Via Saleria in Rome was consecrated on September 29th, and for this reason the festival is included in most of the kalendars of western Christendom, including that of our Prayer Book.

Our House of Holy Clement was made a truly Christian House, a place set aside for Catholic worship on Tuesday, April 12, 1864. After one hundred years of worship, in earlier days often punctuated with sudden blasts of episcopal persecution, its holiness has taken on the attribute of venerableness. We of S. Clement's now

look forward to the decades that lie between 1964 and 2064, and we try to imagine the beauty of the noble and majestic S. Clement's Church when the Christian community of that day celebrates the Parish's two hundredth anniversary. For all that has come to S. Clement's in its first century we say "Thank you, dear God, thank you."

✠

S. CLEMENT'S KALENDAR FOR 1964

January 1st. Centennial Year will be ushered in by a Solemn Mass in the presence of the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Pennsylvania. Bishop Armstrong will bless our observance of Centennial Year and will address the congregation.

The choir of boys and men will sing a new Mass from Holland,—*Missa Festiva* by Marius Monnikendam. The accompaniment will be organ with trumpets and trombones.

January 6th. The Epiphany. Solemn Mass at 6:15 p.m. An informal supper will follow in the Parish Hall, during which due recognition will be given to the fact that this is the eighth anniversary of Father Elwell's Institution as Rector of S. Clement's.

February 2nd-3rd. Sexagesima. Candlemas. Sermon by the Very Reverend Donald J. Parsons, Th.D., Dean of Nashotah House. Special collection for Nashotah House.

Monday. Purification of the B.V.M. Solemn Mass at 6:15 p.m., followed by a covered dish supper.

February 12, Ash Wednesday. On the Fridays of Lent we shall have sermons by six of the younger and newer priests of the diocese. The 8 p.m. Friday service will be Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The preachers are:

Feb. 14. Father John E. Lamb, Associate Librarian at P.D.S.

Feb. 21. Father Stanley E. Johnson, Chaplain, U. of Pa.

Feb. 28. Father James H. Cupit, Jr., Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont.

Mar. 6. Father William H. C. Congdon, Curate at S. Mark's Church.

Mar. 13. Father William L. Kier, Rector of S. Mary's Church, Wayne.

Mar. 20. Father William L. Weiler, Rector of the Church of S. John the Evangelist, Essington.

February 23rd. 2nd Sunday in Lent. After Solemn Mass there will be an open meeting sponsored by the Women of S. Clement's. A showing of the film on the Religious Life produced by the National Council. It is an excellent presentation of a most important subject. Every member of S. Clement's should see this picture.

FEBRUARY 29th. Saturday. Quiet Evening for Men. 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Conductor: the Reverend Father Herbert E. Rowe, Rector of S. Anne's Church, Abington.

March 2nd. Monday. The Annual Meeting of the Parish at 8:00 p.m.

March 8th. Annual Retreat for Women. 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Conductor of the retreat and preacher at Solemn Mass will be the Reverend Father James H. Pearson, former Curate, and now Vicar of S. Andrew's Church, Edwardsville, Illinois.

March 21st. Saturday. Meeting of the Council of the Society of Mary. 11:30 a.m.

March 29th. EASTER DAY.

April 6th. Monday. Lady Day. Solemn Mass of the Annunciation at 6:15 p.m.

April 11th. Saturday. S. CLEMENT'S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION BEGINS.
At the Hotel Philadelphia in the Society Hill Room
6:30 to 7:30 Conversazione with Aperitif.
7:30 Centennial Banquet. Our new Bishop Coadjutor, Dr. DeWitt, will attend and give us his greeting.

April 12th. Sunday. 11 a.m. SOLEMN MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR S. CLEMENT'S CHURCH AND FOR THE CATHOLIC FAITH WHICH THE PARISH CHAMPIONS IN THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS BEAUTY AND THE BEAUTY OF ITS COMPLETENESS.
Preacher at the Mass: the Reverend Father Alfred L. Pedersen, Father Superior of the Society of S. John the Evangelist, Cambridge, Mass. The music will be the same *Missa Festiva* first used here on January 1st. Former parishioners, friends of the Parish, Priest-sons and former Curates will be invited to these events of Saturday and Sunday.

May 7th. ASCENSION THURSDAY. Solemn Mass at 6:15 p.m. followed by a Parish supper.

May 10th. Religious Life Sunday.

May 17th. PENTECOST. At 4:00 p.m. will be the annual Choir Concert. At the Reception which will follow the concert, former choir members will receive special attention.

PATRONS OF MUSIC will again sponsor the outing for choir boys and the names of the sponsors will be published on the program of the Choir Concert.

May 23rd. Ember Saturday. Solemn Mass for the Society of Mary at 11:00 a.m.

May 31st. 1st Sunday after Trinity. Votive Mass in honor of the Blessed Sacrament at 11:00 a.m.

June 5th. Friday. FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS. Solemn Benediction at 8:00 p.m., followed by the traditional June Fete in the garden.

JULY. Nearly everyone in Philadelphia not only reads a certain newspaper but also in the summer goes to the shore or the mountains. We assume that nearly every Clementine at the shore or in the mountains attends Mass each Sunday.

AUGUST 15th. Saturday. The Assumption of Our Lady. Solemn Mass at 11:00 a.m. The Society of Mary will attend and probably have luncheon in the garden.

September 24th. Thursday. The 21st Anniversary of the erection of the Shrine of Our Lady of Clemency.

October 6th. Meeting at S. Clement's of the Convocation of North Philadelphia. Solemn Evensong and Sermon at 6:00 p.m. Dinner in the Parish Hall.

October 25th. Feast of Christ the King. PREACHING MISSION EVERY NIGHT THIS WEEK, by the Reverend Father J. COLIN STEPHENSON, Administrator of the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Norfolk, England. The Mission will conclude on the following Sunday, ALL SAINTS' DAY.

November 2nd, Monday. ALL SOULS' DAY. Solemn Mass at 6:15 p.m. will be offered on behalf of all the Faithful Departed and especially for the departed members of S. Clement's Church and its benefactors.

November 22nd, Sunday next before Advent. Solemn Votive Mass of S. Clement at 11:00 a.m.

November 23rd, S. Clement's day. Low Masses at hours to be announced later.

November 26th, Thursday. The National Thanksgiving Day. Solemn Mass at 10:00 a.m. with Sermon by the Reverend Father Harry S. Longley, D.D., former Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Rittenhouse Square.

December 8th, Tuesday. The Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M. Solemn Mass at 6:15 p.m.

The Christmas events will be publicized later.

January 1st, 1965 Friday.

The Centennial year began with a Solemn Mass a year ago this day, asking God's blessing upon our efforts and plans for celebrating this 100th year of our worshipping in this consecrated Church. Now we close the year with another Solemn Mass, this time in profound thanksgiving to Almighty God; to the Blessed Virgin, Our Lady of Clemency; and to our Holy Patron S. Clement for abundant grace and many blessings bestowed upon this Parish in this year.

Deo Gratias

✠